Welcome to the second newsletter of the Regional Committee for 2016! Thank you to all those members who sent through contributions. We hope you enjoy reading about the various activities of our members, including recent publications and updates from our ‘sister organisation’ conferences.

1. Member activities
Below are updates from some ICTM-ANZ members, on their 2016 activities:

Dr Geoffroy Colson graduated with a PhD from University of Sydney, with a thesis titled “Compositional Ethnomusicology and the Tahitian Musical Landscape: Towards Meta-Sustainability through Creative Practice Research Informed by Ethnographic Fieldwork”. Taking the contemporary musical landscape of Tahiti as a case study, the thesis – jointly in ethnomusicology and composition – combines an ethnographic and ethnomusicological enquiry with a practice-based artistic research applied to ethnomusicology. It contributes to a greater understanding and appreciation of issues surrounding contemporary indigenous cultural identity and musical change, and includes scholarly and field-informed collaborative musical works. Further, it argues that the creative exploration of musical syntheses is an effective alternative to processes of cultural revival through engagement with indigenous communities.

Dr Kirsty Gillespie was appointed Senior Curator (Anthropology) at the Museum of Tropical Queensland, Townsville, which is part of the Queensland Museum Network. This joint position with James Cook University will see Kirsty working closely with Indigenous communities in far north Queensland on collections and exhibitions, as well as with researchers and students of James Cook University. Kirsty welcomes ICTM members and others travelling to the region to get in touch and explore the museum’s collections.

Dr Catherine Grant received a Griffith University grant for a research project, “Sound changes: Exploring the relationship between music sustainability and social justice”. The project will feature a case study of the relationship between music sustainability and social justice concerns in Vanuatu, particularly local environmental concerns relating to climate change. Local partners include Further Arts and the Leweton Custom and Cultural Village (with Thomas Dick and Sandy Sur respectively as partner representatives and Associate Investigators). The project will run February 2017 to April 2018. Cathy would love to hear from anyone who has conducted prior fieldwork in Vanuatu.

Professor Margaret Kartomi AM FAHA received four awards in 2016. In March she received the Sir Bernard Heinze Memorial Award as “the world authority on the music of Sumatra, for her outstanding contribution to music in Australia, and for shaping the lives and thinking of generations of Australian music students.” In May she received the international Fumio Koizumi Prize for Ethnomusicology in Tokyo “in recognition of her contribution to clarifying the diversity of Southeast Asian music cultures from historical, music-stylistic and organological viewpoints.” In October the Ministry of Education and Culture of Indonesia presented her with the Award of Cultural Appreciation for “her dedication and contributions as an expert ethnomusicologist and author of many academic books and articles on the traditional music of Indonesia as well as teaching and researching the music of Asia in Australia and for founding Monash University’s Sumatra Music Archive and the Music Archive of Monash University (MAMU). And in December the Musicological Society of Australia presented her with the Don and Joan Squire Award “for voluntary services to musicology”.

1.2017 conferences
Monash University Adjunct Research Associate Dr John Garzoli also received four awards in 2016: the Australia Thailand Institute (ATI) ‘Artist in Residence’, an Endeavour Postdoctoral Fellowship, an ENIT’s Research Scholarship, and a Visiting International Researcher award at Khon Kaen University for 2017.

For the Australia Thailand Institute Artist in Residence Award, Garzoli was hosted for three months by ICTM’s Thailand Liaison Officer Professor Bussakorn Binson at the Classical Music Department at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. During this period he explored methods of introducing guitar into the heterophonic texture of the traditional Thai classical khrueang sai (string) ensemble. This involved adapting a series of melodies from the song ‘Phaya pai ruea’ (Noblemen rows the boat), and the approach to the arrangement of musical elements was underpinned by the theoretical framework Garzoli formulated to address intercultural musical synthesis in his doctorate. Bruce Gaston, leader of the ensemble Fong Naam, mentored Garzoli and scored the basic musical parts, which function as a template for the elaborations that occur during performance. Gaston, Garzoli, and members of Fong Naam produced a recording of the completed four movement suite. It is planned to explore possible uses of this music in medical settings at a hospital in Khon Kaen to alleviate suffering of patients with illness.

While at Chulalongkorn University, Garzoli, together with Professor Binson, also completed and submitted an article to Musicology Australia, which discusses aspects of Thai musical structure and improvisation that have been the source of considerable confusion. The article aims to consolidate local explanatory models in the English language literature, where it is believed that they are often displaced by ideas that flow from the European and American intellectual traditions.

At the completion of the ATI residency, Garzoli began his Endeavour Postdoctoral Fellowship at Khon Kean University, which will continue his research into traditional and contemporary mawlam practices in Isan. This work will also involve creating new repertoire, based on traditional thang san and thang yao melodic forms, with the Isan-Jazz ensemble Boonhugsa, and will continue research into the philosophy of adapting the guitar to khrueang sai.

2. Member publications
Below is information about some recent publications by ICTM-ANZ members:


• Dr Kirsty Gillespie published a chapter, ‘We will not sit down’: Exploring agency through Christian music at Lake Kopiago, Papua New Guinea’, in Fiona Magowan and Carolyn Schwarz’ edited collection Christianity, Conflict and Renewal in Australia and the Pacific, published by Brill: Leiden; and the article ‘Musical Landscapes of Lihir: Exploring performance and place in a museum exhibition’ in Perfect Beat 17 (1).


- Prof Huib Schippers and Dr Catherine Grant’s edited volume *Sustainable Futures for Music Cultures: An Ecological Perspective* was released in November, with contributions by twelve other scholars from around the world. The book is available in paperback, and digitally via Oxford Scholarship Online (www.oxfordscholarship.com). ICTM RC members can receive 30% off the paperback version by visiting https://global.oup.com/academic/product/sustainable-futures-for-music-cultures-9780190259082?cc=au&lang=en&, and entering the code AAFLYG6.

The newsletter is a great opportunity to promote publications within an interested and supportive community. If you wish any of your recent publications to be included in the next newsletter (c. April 2017), please let Jared (Secretary) know: jared.mackleycrump@aut.ac.nz.

3. Recent conference updates
Conferences for our three sister organisations – MSA, NZMS, and IASPM–ANZ – were held recently. We understand that the ongoing issue of New Zealand representation to the ICTM Regional Committee was raised at the NZMS AGM and, at time of writing, remains outstanding. We hope to have (positive) news in early 2017! At IASPM-ANZ in Mackay, a brief RC catch-up was held in between the full schedule of paper sessions, while at MSA, a small get-together was held at a local café. This, from MSA representative Brigitta Scarfe:

“As early December, ICTM-ANZ Regional Committee members and others met at the national MSA Conference in Adelaide. Despite a full conference program we managed to gather for an informal early breakfast meeting, attended by Margaret Kartomi, Catherine Grant, Mitchell Mollison, Wendy Eikaas-Lee, Jürgen Schöpf, Jeanette Mollenhauer, Brigitta Scarfe and Andrew Alter. It was a fitting opportunity to share our diverse projects and ideas with each other and introduce new members to the workings of the Regional Committee and the ICTM more generally. The conference itself was a success too, featuring a well-attended Australian Indigenous symposium as well as performances of traditional music from Vietnam and China.”

4. Other 2016 news
Our group’s Facebook page has proved a way for us to exchange relevant news. Please feel free to sign up and share news, activities, publications, and so on (https://www.facebook.com/groups/247454982258692/).

As shared on the Facebook page: In July, the Aboriginal Heritage Act was amended to provide protection for intangible cultural heritage, including songs and dance. Traditional owners or native title holders can now apply to have specific intangible heritage listed on the Aboriginal Heritage Roster, with penalties applying for individuals or organisations that exploit these elements of Indigenous culture. (More information here: http://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/news-and-events/commission-news/item/1431-aboriginal-heritage-act-amended-to-protect-intangible-heritage)

And last month, *The International Journal of Traditional Arts* was launched at the Society for Ethnomusicology conference in Washington D.C. The journal, founded by Dr Simon McKerrell (Newcastle University) and Dr Simon Keegan-Phipps (University of Sheffield), is open access and seeks to promote a broad range of understandings pertaining to the relevance of traditional arts in contemporary social life. It is currently accepting submissions. (More information here: http://www.tradartsjournal.org/index.php/ijta)
5. 2017 Conferences
There will be a number of conference opportunities for ICTM members in 2017. Chief among them will be ICTM’s 44th World Conference, to be held in Limerick, Ireland, 13-19 July (see http://www.irishworldacademy.ie/ethnomusicology-special-events/ictm-world-conference/).

IASPM will also hold its world conference, at the end of June in Kassel, Germany. Closer to home, MSA, NZMS and IASPM-ANZ will all have local conferences next year, with New Zealand being particularly well served: MSA and NZMS will hold a joint conference in Auckland 1-3 December, while IASPM-ANZ will be in Wellington.

ICTM-ANZ RC members attending these and other conferences are warmly invited to provide conference reports for inclusion in the 2017 newsletters! Send to Secretary, Jared (jmackley@aut.ac.nz).